

IMPAIRED DRIVING

Benchmark Statement

Decrease the incidence of impaired driving due to alcohol, drugs, and fatigue.

Objectives

To maintain DUI arrests. To decrease alcohol/drug-related crashes by 2%. To train 60 new Drug Recognition Experts. To provide assistance in alcohol/drug prevention programs on ten college campuses. To work with student groups such as Utah Student Safety and Peer Leadership Teams in 25 high schools. To assist with implementing a statewide teen court program. To work with UDOT to increase the number of rumble strips on highways by 5%. To expand the DriveAlert/Arrive Alive program to three new counties. To expand Cops-in-Shop to ten new locations.

Accomplishments

DUI arrests increased from 14,118 in 1999 to 15,418 in 2000. Similarly, there were 90 alcohol-related fatalities for 2000 where there were 72 in 1999.

To help combat the impaired driving problem, more than 30,000 hours of DUI overtime enforcement were issued, resulting in 2,450 DUI arrests (10/00-10/01). These were funded by the new DUI Impound Surcharge.

During the year, 60 Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) were retrained, bringing the total in Utah to over 200 active

DREs. In addition, 12 new DRE Instructors were retrained, bringing the total now to 40.

Student groups in high schools and college campuses were active in substance abuse prevention, impaired driving programs, and teen courts. The Youth and PI&E Section of this report contains more information regarding youth.

The Governor's Council on Impaired Driving was implemented in 2000 and re-commissioned in 2001. The UHSO is represented and provides information and expert testimony to the council.

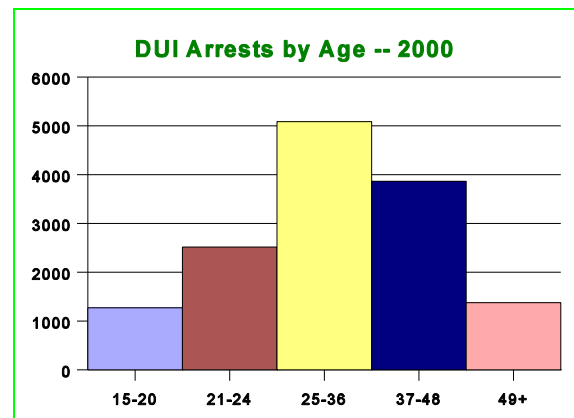
Cops-In-Shops has expanded to 35 local communities. These programs help deter underage youth from purchasing alcoholic beverages by placing undercover officers at local stores that sell beer.

The UHSO's impaired driving program has expanded each year. Therefore, a new position was created, the **Law Enforcement Liaison Officer**, to manage the Cops-In-Shops programs, DUI-overtime shifts, and the SR-6 Aggressive Driving Program.

Rumblestrips were consistently placed

by UDOT during repaving. These are shown to help the fatigue-impaired driver. In addition, the drowsy-driver information program ***DriveAlert Arrive Alive*** was utilized in many locations. Fatigue/falling asleep was the third leading cause of fatal crashes in Utah.

A new BATmobile was purchased and placed into service. This should assist in sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols for the UHP and all other agencies. It was funded by the DUI-Driver License renewal surcharge.



Legislation

The Legislative DUI Task Force prepared several improvements or clarifications on DUI bills. And several more are being prepared for the 2001 Legislature.

Challenges

A DUI assessment was held in December, and will provide guidance from an outside-Utah perspective.